

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT

50X1-HUM

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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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2. Biochemistry Department

Professor Dr. med. Dr. phil. Karl Lohmann has not published any work since 1940. He very rarely does any practical work in the laboratory but devotes himself to the supervision of the building and general administration, in his capacity as Professor Walter Friedrich's deputy; his dictatorial tendencies are increasingly evident.

3. Crystal Structure Analysis Group

It now seems that the planned move of this group, under the leadership of Frau Dr. phil. Kaethe Dornberger, into the premises of the Berliner Gluehlampenwerk (Berlin O 17, Warschauerstr.) will not take place. The group is settling down in the so-called Neutron House.

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4. Biophysics Department

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- a. Professor Dr. Walter Friedrich is nominally in charge but his various outside activities take up most of his time. His deputy is Dr. Hans-Wolfgang Koelle who is also in charge of one of the three sections of the Biophysics Department. He is working on ultrasonic problems.

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b. Frl. Dr. Ing. Liselott Herforth, who spends part of her time lecturing in Leipzig, is in charge of the second section, which measures the activity and quantity of radium products of East Germany, and conducts searches with special instruments for radioactive substances which have been lost in medical establishments.

c. The third section was headed by Dr. Heinz Parchwitz, until he left for the West. No successor has yet been appointed. 50X1-HUM

#### 5. Neutron Physics Department

Nothing further has been heard of the large generator for the Neutron House. Until it is installed, the high-voltage current essential for the production of radioactive isotopes will not be available. Scientific workers in this department are sceptical about the plans for production of radioactive isotopes in their own laboratory, but Professor Lohmann recently said in discussion that it would be possible to obtain them from the USSR, in order that the required work on tracer atoms could be carried out.

#### 6. Rumors of an East German Pile

It is suggested that the unfounded rumors and press reports about the building of an atomic pile in East Germany may have arisen from the following incident. About a year ago, in the course of a conference at which Dr. Koelle gave a dissertation on radioactive isotopes, Professor Friedrich mentioned the matter of an atomic pile, in connection with the building of the Neutron House. He said that he considered the purchase of such isotopes unnecessary and that he had asked the Soviet Ambassador that day whether East Germany could not build an atomic pile. He envisaged that the East German pile would produce, from uranium 235, plutonium for the USSR and fission by-products, isotopes, for itself. The Soviet Ambassador suggested that Professor Friedrich forward the proposal. Thereafter nothing further was heard of the matter until it was mentioned again in the recent discussion of the work on tracer atoms.

#### 7. Relations with the USSR and Satellites

Nothing of importance in this sphere has happened at Buch. No scientific ~~scientists~~ have been sent to the USSR. A Soviet biologist named A.I. Oparin attended a peace conference in Berlin and paid a short visit to the institute; in the third week of May, two Chinese scientists (names not ascertained) paid a similar visit.

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